



Montana Statewide Initiative

Decisions for Montanans by Montanans

A Collaborative Conversation

Presentation to Water Policy Interim Committee March 5, 2018



The Previous Conversation

- ▶ Piecemeal approach at best...various stakeholders attempt to define exempt well conversation
- ▶ Origins of exempt well definitions never intended for land use planning
- ▶ All stakeholders not at table for entirety of conversation
- ▶ Many interested parties never invited to table at all



The New Dialog

- Population growth reveals changing growth patterns
 - Not all towns have the same challenges
 - Not just a water use problem—farm preservation, transportation, economic development, resource management, fire planning, forest management, mineral extraction
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The Approach

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- ▶ Neutral Facilitator
 - ▶ Citizen Driven
 - ▶ Twelve Town Tour
 - ▶ Nominal Group Process
 - ▶ Website
 - ▶ Online Survey
 - ▶ Technical Reports

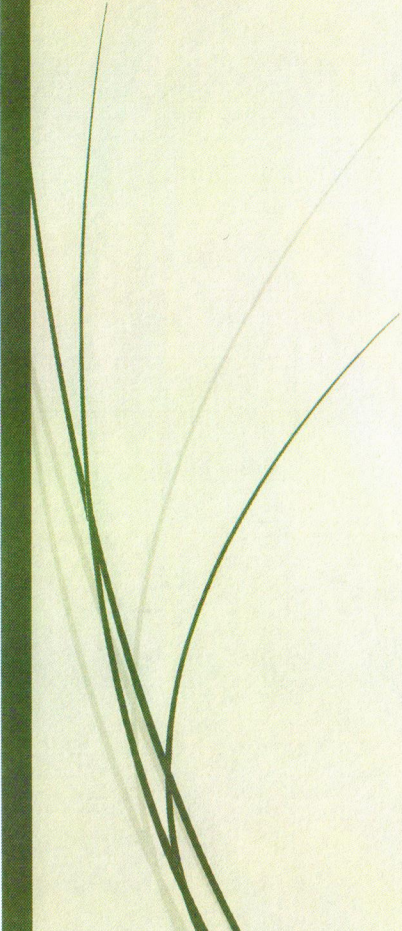


Twelve Towns

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- Bozeman
 - Great Falls
 - Missoula/Kalispell
 - Havre
 - Miles City/Billings/Red Lodge/Harlowton
 - Hamilton/Helena/Dillon



Comprehensive Planning

- All inclusive approach to addressing issues of community's future growth
 - Problem solving that blends existing conditions with the public resolve to act
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Nominal Group Process

- Bottom Up, not Top Down
- Group process involving problem identification, solution generation, and decision making
- Everyone's opinion is considered



Anticipated Outcomes

- Improved understanding of Montana residents' priorities
- Understanding of residents' perceptions of challenges and opportunities in land use planning at community level and across state
- Development of useful information at local, municipal and state level in developing water policy and legislation as well as other pertinent issues
- Stronger citizen involvement in decision making process which will help inform and engage electorate
- Mutual learning for various interest groups



Expected Outputs

- ▶ Workshop reports detailing land use priorities, challenges and opportunities
- ▶ One final report summarizing public meetings, noting where there are consistencies as well as regional differences



Budget

Facilitator	-	\$ 10,500
Mileage	-	\$ 4,800
Per Diem	-	\$ 6,700
Marketing	-	\$ 8,000
Advertising		\$ 20,000
Website		<u>\$ 2,000</u>
Total		\$ 52,000